

Laurel Church of Christ

Family Focus

August 14, 2022

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MY FRIEND AND HIS TEXT MESSAGES

By Dan Jenkins, Palm Beach Lakes, GA

I don't know what we would do without friends. God created us with a need for them. Each day of God's creation has the phrase 'God saw that it was good'. However, after God created man, He said, "It is not good that man should be alone." He created us as social beings and has given us friends.

We need friends. This is one of the reasons for the popularity of mobile phones as it allows us to be in constant contact with others. Each day Americans send 2,500,000,000 text messages! I have to admit that I am very much involved in that texting world. Let me tell you about a special friend who has sent me so many text messages which have enabled me to grow to be more like Jesus.

I remember the emotional struggle I had this time last year when my big brother, my hero, died. I remember the empty feeling I had as I left the hospital having seen Jerry for the last time. That night my friend's text was there. He always seems to have the perfect words to enable me to keep going. His text lifted my soul and gave me strength to deal with the matter. I needed my friend. I needed his text message.

I remember dealing with other problems in the family and in the church and sometimes I feel the burden is so great. I am amazed at my friend. His text messages just change the way I am looking at life.

My friend is so much a part of my life. I talk to him often. Whether on the mountaintops of joy or in the deep valleys of life, my friend is there. I cherish every text message from him. I have every text message he has ever sent me written in a book. It has more than a thousand pages filled with those text messages from him. When I want to know what to preach, I check that book and right in the text is the answer. When I am asked to give counsel and advice, I check that book and right in the text message is the answer. My friend has sent thousands of texts to supply every need I have.

You have that book—the Bible. Check your text messages from my Friend often!

Encourage one another in love and good deeds. Hebrews 10:23-24

Pray for the sick: You may not know some of them, but God knows them and their needs, so let's lift them up.

Dave Newberry, Terry Hastings, Sandi Holt, Michelle Tucker, Pat Tucker; continuing health concerns.

On-going personal Bible studies.

World turmoil; people of Ukraine and Russia

Myra's sister Connie

Jenny Womersley and family

Goldie Weldon; foot problems

Maddie's Aunt Susan, early lung cancer and Dale's

Cousin's baby, Hudson; Dale's grandmother.

Butch Womersley; health and safety

All our members that are traveling

Robin Anderson's father-in-law; blood pressure

All those battling COVID

Ruth Banks had a corneal transplant and recovering

Kentucky flood victims

California and Texas wildfires

LADIES' ZOOM: Tuesdays at 7:30.

CHURCH LOGO SHRITS are being ordered by Don Trader. If interested in ordering, see Don.

VBS is now in the books. We are thankful for all those who attended and all those who helped in any way. We pray that God was glorified and people were blessed who took part.

LADIES' DAY at Chesapeake CoC, Saturday, Sept. 24 from 9-1. Speaker is Leanna Boyer and topic is "Once Upon An Apron". Lunch will be served. RSVP: chesapeakecoc@gmail.com

TRAP POND CAMP coming soon.

MEN TO SERVE;

Welcome/Scripture; Philip-14th; Dave-21st

Prayer; Dave-14th; Troy F.-21st

Table; Lanny-14th; Andy-21st

Announcements/Closing prayer; Troy M.-August
Song Leader; Troy F.-14th; Paul-21st

Opportunities for study and worship

Sunday: (In person and virtually at:
www.laurelcoc.org)

Bible Classes 9:00 a.m.

Worship 10:00 a.m.

Teen Devo 6:00 p.m.

Thursday:

Men's Bible Study 8:30 a.m.

Wednesday

Bible Study at building 6:30 p.m.

We invite you to attend any of our service times, and we look forward to welcoming you, and pray that you might find a home here with us in Laurel and with God in heaven as His child.

If you need Media help — connections, addresses, or general questions contact: Don Trader or Julio Brennick

WHO WE ARE

The body of Christ in Laurel, Delaware is a family of believers knit together in love (Colossians 2:2), striving to serve God in spirit and in truth (John 4:24) and carrying the gospel to the lost (Matthew 28:18). We are an autonomous body with Christ only as our head, and elders shepherding the flock of God (Acts 20:28).

We have been entrusted with the gospel (I Thessalonians 2:4) and so it is that we speak. The congregation seeks to uphold the doctrine and practice of the first century church using the only true standard, the Bible, as our guide (2 Peter 1:3). It is our prayer that all would come to a knowledge of the truth and partake in that divine fellowship in the body of Christ, being immersed for the remission of sins, and beginning life anew with Christ as Lord (Acts 2:38, Romans 6:1). Our plea is that we might be one in Christ, and serve the Lord faithfully unto death to receive our crown (Revelation 2:10).